Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) An electromagnetic switching device, comprising:

a housing

a drive solenoid;

a yoke;

an armature; and

at least one contact, the drive solenoid, the yoke, the armature and the at least one contact being mounted in the housing, the drive solenoid, the yoke and the armature being inductively intercoupled, so that, when an inrush current is applied to the drive solenoid, the armature is displaceable into a pickup position, the displacement of the armature into the pickup position allowing the contact to be directly or indirectly actuated,

the yoke containing pulverulent magnetic material, wherein the drive solenoid and the yoke are cast with each other by way of a permanently elastic casting compound to form a block.

2. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the yoke and the housing are cast with each other by use of a casting compound.

3. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claims 2, wherein the drive solenoid, the yoke and the housing are cast with each other by use of a unitary casting compound.

4. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing comprises an upper housing part and a lower housing part, detachably connected to each other, wherein the lower housing part includes, at least partly, a casting material and wherein the drive solenoid and the yoke are connected to the casting material by way of the permanently elastic casting material.

5. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the casting material is a hard casting material.

6. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 4, wherein fastening elements for connecting the upper housing part to the lower housing part to each other are arranged in the casting material.

7. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 4, wherein fastening elements for connecting the lower housing part to a fastening surface are arranged in the lower housing part.

8. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the pulverulent magnetic material is sintered material.

9. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pulverulent magnetic material is mixed with a polymer compound.

10. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pulverulent magnetic material surrounds at least one of a soft iron core, a highly permeable material and a permanent magnet.

11. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a sensor, inductively coupled to a conductor connected to the contact by way of a coupling element containing a pulverulent magnetic material, is arranged in the housing.

12. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the sensor is formed as at least one of a magnetic field sensor and a flux-change sensor.

13. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the sensor and the coupling element are cast with each other.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the switching device is at least one of a contactor and a power circuit breaker.

17. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 5, wherein fastening elements for connecting the upper housing part to the lower housing part to each other are arranged in the casting material.

18. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 5, wherein fastening elements for connecting the lower housing part to a fastening surface are arranged in the lower housing part.

19. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 6, wherein fastening elements for connecting the lower housing part to a fastening surface are arranged in the lower housing part.

20. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pulverulent magnetic material is mixed with an epoxy resin.

21. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the sensor and the coupling element are cast with each other.